

# **The Maternal Immunization Working Group (MIWG)**

## **of the National Vaccine Advisory Committee**

**Overview of the Working Group Processes and  
Procedures**

NVAC Meeting

September 2012

**MIWG Chair:**

Catherine Torres, MD

*Secretary of Health, New Mexico*

# The NVAC Charge for MIWG

- **Purpose:**
  - To bring prenatal care into the culture of immunization and prevention in order to achieve goals outlined in the National Vaccine Plan and Healthy People 2020
- **Charge**
  - To review the current state of maternal immunization and existing best practices
  - To identify programmatic barriers to the implementation of current recommendations related to maternal immunization and make recommendations to overcome these barriers
  - To identify barriers to and opportunities for developing vaccines for pregnant women and make recommendations to overcome these barriers
- **Approval**
  - NVAC accepted the charge and formation of the MIWG on June 5, 2012
  - MIWG was formed in August 2012 to address the charge

# Membership

## NVAC

Walt Orenstein  
Catherine Torres (Chair)  
Phil LaRussa  
Amy Pisani  
Thomas Stenvig  
LJ Tan  
Vish Viswanath  
Clement Lewin

## Federal Ex Officio Members

Jennifer Liang (CDC)  
Norma Allred (CDC)  
Erin Kennedy (CDC)  
Marion Gruber (FDA)  
Valerie Marshall (FDA)  
Geoffrey Evans (HRSA)  
Barbara Mulach (NIH)  
Mirjana Nesin (NIH)  
Anna Jacobs (OGC/DHHS)  
Iris Mabry-Hernandez (AHRQ)  
Richard Martinello (VA)  
Hani Atrash (HRSA)  
Jennifer Mbutia (DoD)  
Tina Tah (HIS)  
Amy Groom (HIS)

## Subject Matter Experts

Isaac Goldberg  
Bernard Gonik  
Carol Baker  
Michael Katz

## Liaison Representatives

Wayne Rawlins - AHIP  
Gina Burns – Group B Strep Association  
Rahn K Bailey – National Medical  
Association  
Elena V. Rios – National Hispanic Medical  
Association  
Catherine Ruhl - Association of Women's  
Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Audrey Stevenson - American Nurses  
Association  
Richard Beigi - American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists

## NVPO

Mark Grabowsky  
Jennifer Read  
Ankita Nigam

## Special Assistant

Katy Seib

# Focus Areas of MIWG Discussions

## **Vaccines currently recommended for pregnant women (influenza and pertussis)**

- i. Epidemiology of these diseases in pregnant women and in infants
- ii. Rationale for use of vaccines during pregnancy
- iii. Immunization coverage among pregnant women

## **Patient barriers and federal opportunities to overcome barriers to current vaccination recommendations**

- i. What are they and how can they be overcome

## **Provider barriers and federal opportunities to overcome barriers to current vaccination recommendations**

- i. What are they and how can they be overcome

## **Vaccines under development (i.e. GBS, RSV)**

- i. Overview of the rationale for the development of these vaccines
- ii. What are the barriers to development and the federal opportunities to overcome these barriers

# Process for Developing Recommendations

**Recommendations are developed through an iterative process with input from MIWG members and other subject matter experts**

## **August 2012 – January 2013**

- Experts present to the working group (WG) with an overview of key focus areas during bimonthly or monthly calls

## **February 2013 – April 2013**

- WG members provide discussion, comments and revisions on the proposed recommendations during monthly calls and through written input

## **May 2013**

- Draft Report resulting from WG input are presented to NVAC for feedback. If consensus is not reached, WG members will present both majority and minority opinions for NVAC guidance.

## **June 2013**

- Based on NVAC feedback, the draft will be revised and sent out for public comment.

## **July 2013**

- Public Comment period

## **August 2013**

- Public comments are incorporated and the report/ recommendations are finalized

## **September 2013**

- Recommendations are presented to the full NVAC for a vote with a report outlining the rationale for recommendations and WG discussions

# Recent and Future WG Meetings

## Recent Meetings

- The inaugural MIWG Meeting was held on *August 15, 2012*
- *September 2012*
  - Discussion of the epidemiology of pertussis and influenza in pregnant women and infants, rationale for use of these vaccines during pregnancy, and immunization coverage among pregnant women

## Future Meetings

- *October 2012*
  - Discussion of patient barriers to currently recommended vaccines and opportunities to overcome these barriers
- *November 2012*
  - Discussion of provider barriers to currently recommended vaccines and opportunities to overcome these barriers
- *December 2012*
  - Discussion of the epidemiology of GBS, RSV, and other diseases in pregnant women and in infants and the rationale for development of GBS, RSV, and other vaccines for use in pregnancy
  - Discussion of barriers to the development of these vaccines
- *January 2013*
  - Discussion of opportunities to overcome these barriers for vaccines under development

# Meetings for MIWG Activities

Month	Day
September	September 5 September 19
October	October 3 October 17
November	November 14 November 28
December	December 5 December 19
January	January 9
February	February 13
March/April	Compile all sections of draft report
May	Draft report is forwarded to NVAC

**June NVAC Meeting:** Draft report addressed by NVAC

**September NVAC Meeting:** Final report presented to NVAC

# **QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION**